

NEW BATTLESHIPS SAIL FOR TAMPICO

SUPERDREADNAUGHTS NEW YORK AND TEXAS ARE READY

NEW YORK, April 15.—The new superdreadnought New York, one of the two largest battleships in the world, was placed in commission today at the Brooklyn navy yard.

The ceremony was simple. Capt. T. S. Rogers received his orders, placing him in command of the new battleship. The ship's band played "The Star Spangled Banner." Cheers by the 1014 officers and men in the crew of the latest addition to the Atlantic fleet were answered by the men on the other ships at the yards, and the New York was in commission.

It is necessary the New York could steam out to sea in 12 hours. Other battleships at the navy yard are the superdreadnoughts Texas and Wyoming, the dreadnoughts North Dakota and Ohio and the armored cruiser Washington. All of these could join the fleet at a few hours notice.

The New York and the Texas, the latter also just completed, are sister ships. Both will be assigned to the first division of the Atlantic fleet. Each has a displacement of 27,000 tons and a speed of 22 knots an hour. They are fitted with a main battery of ten 14-inch guns, and a secondary armament of 21 five-inch rifles.

FOWLER LOWERS BLOODY AX WHEN GIRL MAKES PLEA

Brother Had Been Slain by Man Believed Insane, Miss Sammis Discovers.

Huntington, N. Y., April 15.—Miss Mary Sammis, who lives on a Long Island farm, awoke early today to find a man with a bloody ax in his hands standing by her bed. In the dim light she recognized Frank Fowler, a young farm hand who slept in the house. "I've just killed your brother upstairs," said Fowler, "and I'm going to kill you, too."

"I've always been kind to you, Frank," pleaded the woman, "and you have no reason for harming me."

"I don't know," answered Fowler, "I guess I'm a little crazy, but I'll go down and he'll be with me."

Miss Sammis went upstairs and found her brother's body on the bed. The police believe Fowler is insane. They were searching for him today. The girl and her brother owned some land on the farm, which they owned jointly.

MARTINEZ CASE NOT REACHED BY BOARD

Many Mexicans Write, Urging Commutation of Sentence of Mexican to Be Hanged.

Austin, Tex., April 15.—The board of pardons did not act upon the application of Leon Cardenas Martinez, Jr., for a commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment, as had been previously announced by the board. A member of the board said that no action would be taken today, but something may be done tomorrow, and it will be Saturday before the board files its recommendations with the governor.

WILL PRESS FOR NEW TRIAL FOR BECKER

New York, April 15.—District attorney Charles S. Whitman is determined to bring former Mayor George W. Becker to trial for a second time, at an early date on the charge of having instigated the murder of gambler Herman Rosenthal, for the actual killing of whom the four gunmen paid the death penalty on Monday morning.

It was expected that the motion before Justice Sutherland in the supreme court today would be opposed by Becker on the ground that his trial should be postponed until after the defense and that new counsel would need more time in which to become familiar with the case.

THIRTY-FIVE ALLEGED PICKETERS HELD TO GRAND JURY

Portsmouth, Ohio, April 15.—Thirty-five persons, arrested Tuesday, charged with violating a joint injunction against picketing and with violating the mayor's proclamation against congregating in the shoe factory district, where a strike is in progress, waived examination before mayor Erick this morning. They were held to the grand jury and arrangements made for each defendant to sign a bond.

WILL TAKE K. C. M. & O. RAILROAD OUT OF RECEIVERS' HANDS

Kansas City, Mo., April 15.—Funds sufficient for taking the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railroad out of the hands of receivers and placing it on a paying basis have been obtained in New York, according to a telegram received by W. C. Kemper, president of the Commerce Trust company and a member of the Orient organization committee.

The Colonial Knickerbocker Trust company of New York, according to the telegram, has underwritten \$2,500,000 in notes for the company. These notes will permit the paying off of receivers' certificates and current debts and take the road out of the expensive receivership, according to Mr. Kemper.

TAX COLLECTORS HAVE UNTIL MAY 30 TO FILE REPORTS

Austin, Texas, April 15.—Tax collectors throughout the state are being reminded by the controller's department that they must close their accounts on April 30, and file their annual statements with the department within 30 days after that period. A severe penalty is attached for failure to make these reports within the time prescribed by the law.

HUERTA DECLINES TO SALUTE FLAG

Venacruz, Mex., April 15.—Practical refusal to salute the United States flag is contained in a note transmitted by the Mexican minister of foreign affairs, senior Porfirio y Rojas, to the American charge d'affaires, Nelson O'Shaughnessy.

The note says, in effect, that the Mexican government cannot see where, under international law, the federalists have inflicted any injury upon the American nation; that compliance with the demand to salute the American flag would be an admission that the United States is exercising an undue influence over Mexico free administration, and that the president is disposed to uphold the honor and sovereignty of Mexico at any cost.

WHITNEY SAYS HE IS GUILTY AND PAYS FINE

Wealthy Young Man Decides Not to Fight Genevieve Hanan's Charges.

ANXIOUS TO AVOID LONG TRIAL, HE SAYS

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., April 15.—J. Parker Whitney, a younger son of an old and wealthy California family, pleaded guilty today to the charge of kidnapping a woman under the Mann white slave traffic act by Genevieve Hanan of New York, and was fined \$2500 by Judge Dooling in the United States district court.

"I have decided to change my plea to guilty," said Whitney, just before entering court, "in order to avoid the disagreeable features of a long trial. Of course, I looked for an acquittal eventually, but it would have come only after a great deal of business. The case has proved a burden to me already. Pleading guilty saved more trouble."

In imposing sentence, Judge Dooling said:

"The defendant being a man of some property, I rather than a trifling fine, would be no penalty at all. There is a wide range of penalty and in enacting the law congress must have understood that some would be punished by fine, some by imprisonment and some by both. The defendant would rather pay a fine than go to jail, and I will make it a fine that will be a fine."

Genevieve Hanan, the complainant, has not appeared in the case personally since she testified before the grand jury which returned the indictment. She is understood to be now in Chicago.

RAIN POSTPONES BIG LEAGUE GAMES

Boston-Brooklyn game at Brooklyn and the Chicago-Cincinnati game at Cincinnati in the National league were postponed today on account of rain.

The Philadelphia-New York game at Philadelphia in the American league was postponed for the same reason.

The same thing caused postponement of the St. Louis-Detroit American league game at Detroit.

BOTH HOUSES RESUME ACTION ON THE ANTI TRUST PROGRAM

Washington, D. C., April 15.—President Wilson's reiterated desire for completion of the antitrust legislative program at this session of congress spurred committees in both houses of congress to action Tuesday. The house judiciary subcommittee responded with the introduction of the omnibus bill, including trust legislation measures and provisions to meet demands of labor for restriction of injunction powers and to insure jury trials in contempt cases.

JAPAN'S CABINET IS REORGANIZED; OKUMA PREMIER

Former Japanese Foreign Minister Completes New Administrative Body.

Tokyo, Japan, April 15.—Count Shigenobu Okuma, former Japanese foreign minister, today completed his new cabinet as follows:

Premier and minister of the interior, Count Okuma; foreign affairs, Takashi Kato; finance, Reijiro Wakatsuki; marine, vice admiral Rokuro Takahiro; war, Lieut. Gen. Ichinosuke Oka; justice, Yukio Ozaki; communications, Tokutomi Taketomi; commerce, Viscount Kanetake Oura; education, Hishikuro Ichiki.

FEDERALS APPLYING TORCH AT GUAYMAS

The head of the information bureau at Hermosillo has communicated to Juarez a message from Obregon of last Monday, stating that a rich merchant of Guaymas, Luis A. Martinez, had said that his house and other property had been burned by the federalists, who have given up hope of holding the airport. Many houses are being burned. It is said, with the idea of forcing owners of the remainder to make contributions. General Obregon also reports the burning of the steamer "Carmen," which was carrying guns for the Huertistas.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS

Washington, D. C., April 15.—The day in congress:
Senate:
Met at noon.
Foreign affairs committee discussed the Mexican crisis.
Canals committee continued hearings on the repeal of the Panama tolls exemption.
House:
Met at noon.
Miscellaneous bills were considered under the calendar.
Wednesday rule.
Advocates of the Hobson prohibition amendment were heard before the judiciary committee.

BLOCKADE WILL BE PLACED ON MEXICAN PORTS

Washington Government Discusses General Blockade of All Mexican Ports as Next Step; Secretary of Navy Calls for Information on All Available Ships; Many Already on West Coast of Mexico.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15.—A general blockade of Mexican ports on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts will be one of the first steps of the United States if Huerta refuses to salute the American flag in redress of the insult to the U. S. navy at Tampico.

A naval demonstration on the Pacific coast of Mexico has been ordered in addition to that on the east coast.

Discussion of the possibility of blockading the Mexican coasts prevails today in official circles. Secretary of the navy Daniels called for information on what additional vessels are available for service on the Pacific. The cruisers Cleveland and Chattanooga are ready to join the vessels already doing duty off the west coast.

SHIPS ALREADY ON WEST COAST.

These ships already are there:
The cruiser Raleigh and the gunboat Annapolis at Mazatlan; the cruiser New Orleans and the gunboat Yorktown at Topolobampo; the armored cruiser California and the supply ship Glacier at Acapulco.

Secretary of state Bryan declined today to discuss Mexican developments beyond saying he is in uninterrupted communication with charge O'Shaughnessy.

Orders were sent to Vallejo, Calif., for the collier Jupiter, now at California City, to load with coal and proceed at once to Mazatlan. The Jupiter will carry fuel for the Pacific fleet now on patrol duty in Mexican waters.

CAN CLOSE UP EASTERN PORTS ALSO.

The ships now in Pacific waters and those ordered there are expected to maintain a complete blockade of all Mexican west coast ports, in case of need.

In the meantime the Atlantic squadron now under way, the battleships stationed at Veracruz and Tampico, and the ships of war still on duty along the Atlantic coast, will be able to blockade the Atlantic ports of Mexico, effectively stopping all importation of arms or supplies into Mexico from that direction.

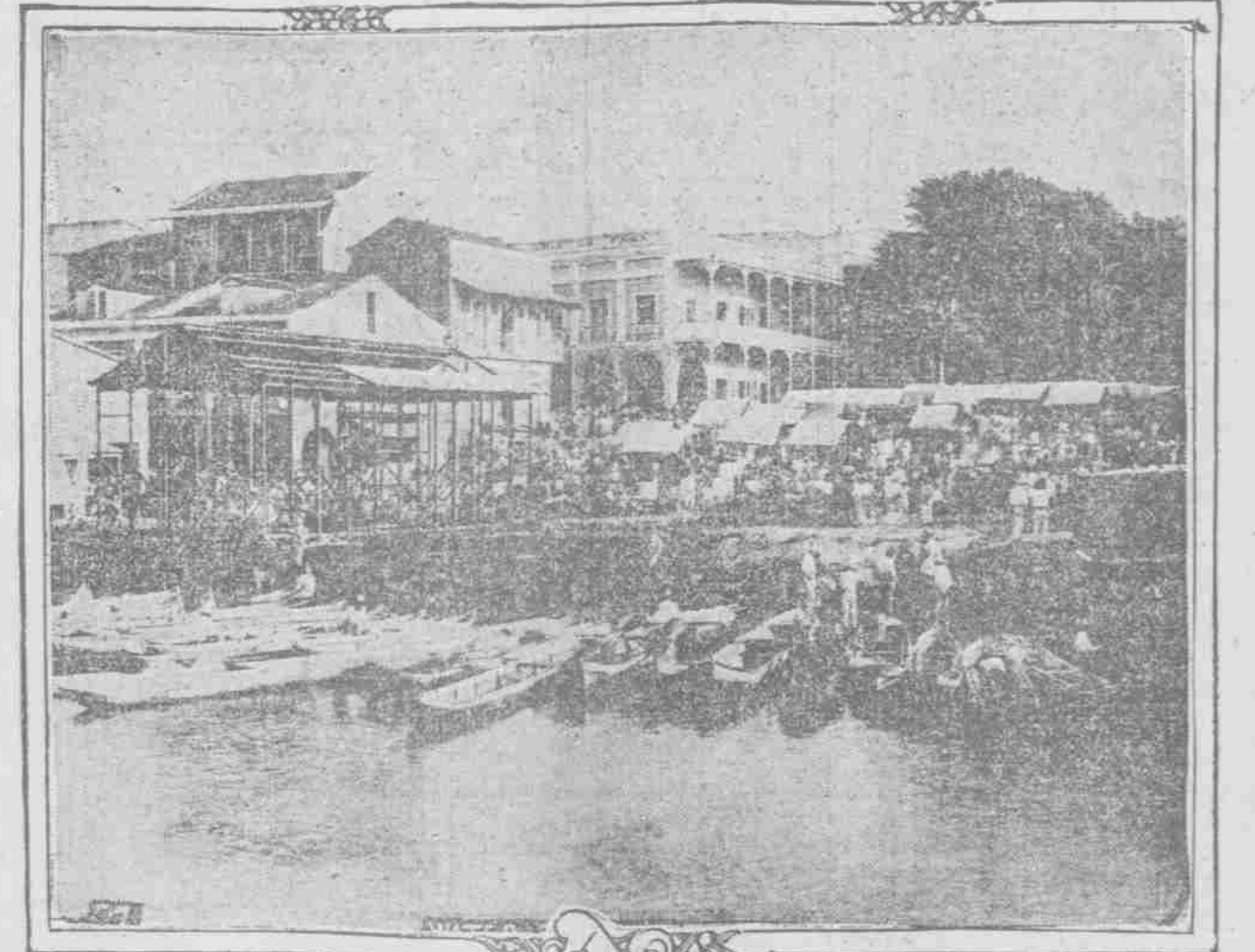
U. S. TROOPS HIKE; READY FOR ACTION

Houston, Texas, April 15.—The 60 mile "hike" of about 10,000 men of the second army division, mobilized at Galveston and Texas City, began today with the departure of the sixth brigade from Galveston. Regiments will follow each other rapidly until by Thursday practically the entire division will be at Fort Hancock, near Brownsville, commanding the division, said today: "The hike will not affect the preparedness for embarkation of the second division, as transports are kept in readiness for the men, and at no time will they be out of sight of the railway tracks, which could take the command to Galveston in short order. No preliminary orders would be necessary should the troops be needed south."

HUERTA CURRENCY DROPS TO 25 CENTS

Mexican federal currency in El Paso dropped to 25 cents Wednesday. This is the lowest point yet reached by Mexican money. Local banks were not seeking any Villa currency Wednesday and no price was quoted on it.

VIEW OF TAMPICO, FEDERAL STRONGHOLD, THREATENED BY THE U. S. NAVY



A view of the water front of Tampico, Mexico, which city is now the scene of stubborn fighting between the Huertistas and rebels and to which point the United States fleet has been sent.

STRIPPED FOR FRAY

IN GRAY PAINT, READY FOR WAR

Arkansas, Vermont, New Hampshire and New Jersey Are on Their Way to Mexican Port to Batter It With Shells to Maintain the Dignity of the United States—Repair Ship Goes With the Fleet and Hospital Ship Prepares to Follow.

NORFOLK, Va., April 15.—The battleships Arkansas, Vermont, New Hampshire, and New Jersey and the dispatch boat Yankton sailed from Hampton Roads today for Mexican waters at full speed.

Rear admiral Badger, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, sailed for Tampico from Hampton Roads at noon today on the superdreadnought Arkansas. In a thick fog that hung over the bay the big ships started off under orders to make 11 1-2 knots an hour. That speed will bring them to Tampico in seven days.

The New Hampshire was the first to get under way. All but the Yankton were in their war paint of gray. The activities in Hampton Roads almost equaled some of the scenes preceding the departure of rear admiral Schley's flying squadron during the Spanish-American war.

To complete the hasty coaling of the New Hampshire it was necessary to work all last night. Eighteen hundred tons of coal were placed in her bunkers. The New Hampshire's regular crew was augmented by 50 apprentice seamen from St. Helena.

Before the vessel sailed today another detail of seamen was transferred to her from the ships Franklin and Richmond for distribution among the vessels of the fleet.

The repair ship Vestal, the ammunition ship Lebanon and the naval tugs Patapsco, Patuxent, Sonoma and Ontario are hastily preparing for sea. The hospital ship Solace will join the fleet at once.

The Lebanon and tugs would prove especially valuable for landing parties, owing to their comparatively light draft.

The battleship Delaware did not get away. She was held for repairs and overhauling.

MEXICO INSULTS ONLY U. S.--WILSON

President Issues a Frank Statement Citing Indignities Heaped Upon American Representatives in Mexico and Indicating His Attitude; Cabinet and Congress Stand Behind Executive in His Demand For Action.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15.—The alternative of a salute to the American flag or seizure of the Mexican ports of Tampico and Veracruz by the United States confronts president Huerta.

The Atlantic fleet is now beginning to steam toward Tampico to enforce the demands of the United States for reparation for the Tampico incident. Assured of the support of congress, president Wilson today issued a statement setting forth a list of grievances culminating in the Tampico incident, and clearly indicating the attitude of the executive and his cabinet.

The president and his advisers are convinced, as asserted in Mr. Wilson's statement, that a long series of indignities offered to the United States, to the exclusion of other foreign nations represented in Mexico, is evidence that the United States has been singled out for "manifestations of ill will and contempt."

President Sets Forth His Views.
The president's statement follows:
"In discussions in official circles in Washington, relative to the present Mexican situation, the following points have been much dwelt on:

"It has been pointed out, that, in considering the present somewhat delicate situation in Mexico, the unpleasant situation at Tampico must not be thought of alone. For some time past the de facto government of Mexico has seemed to think mere apologies sufficient when the rights of American citizens or the dignity of the local authorities. He was subsequently government of the United States were involved and has apparently made no attempt at either reparation or the effective correction of the serious derangements of its civil and military officers."

Arrest of Orderly Significant.
"Immediately after the incident at Tampico an orderly from one of the ships of the United States in the harbor of Veracruz, who had been sent ashore to the postoffice for the ship's mail, and who was in uniform and who had the official mail bag on his back, was arrested and put into jail by the local authorities. He was subsequently released."

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3.)

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A New Short Serial Story, thrilling with human interest,
By THE AUTHOR OF "THE TWO SISTERS"
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Read the opening chapters and you will look for the others eagerly.